

My husband and I are employed full-time and work as registered nurses in the Hartford area. We have 2 children, ages 4 and 1.5 who we entrust in the care of our wonderful early childhood educators each day so that we can do the important work that we do. We are just “making it” financially, and by just making it this includes but is not limited to— borrowing money from both sets of our parents and having to get a second job. It is unbelievable that two working parents, with decent salaries, are under an incredible amount of financial stress due to childcare expenses. All the while, the employees at these same amazing childcare centers are extremely underpaid and short staffed, as we know these two things go hand in hand. Our center owners are also underpaid and in dire straits financially. These problems have been here for a long time, but Covid has exposed them on a larger scale. A start to fix this would be to pass bills S.B. 383 and H.B. 5403. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Sheldon Rasgo R.N., B.S.N.

Emily Rasgo R.N., B.S.N.